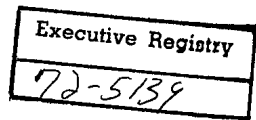


001/10-12-0759



27 SEP 1972

Vice Admiral Harold G. Bowen, Jr.  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
(Intelligence)  
Department of Defense  
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Hal:

I have learned with very real regret of your pending retirement and wanted you to know I consider the intelligence community will be losing in the process one of its most stalwart warriors. We have seen together a lot of the pioneer work which has gone into the present cooperative venture in the intelligence community, and I can say with conviction that much of what has seemed to me to move in the right direction has done so because of your efforts and invariable good will. This has been a contribution without which much of this work would have been barren and some of it very difficult. For all this you have my wholehearted thanks.

What now remains is to hope that retirement will be an entirely happy and successful venture and that you won't move yourself permanently from these parts. I should be very surprised if, with your broad experience and understanding of our business, we do not find use for your counsel and help in future years. I, for one, will feel free to call on you.

With appreciation and every best wish,

Sincerely,

Richard Helms

Richard Helms

IC:Bronson Tweedy:dm(26 Sep 72)

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